Applicant : Nova Spivack et al.
Serial No. : 10/719,002
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Attorney's Docket No.: 15561-017001

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 5 and replaces the original sheet including Fig. 5.

In Figure 5, friends 11 and semcard 10, and authored document 13 and semcard 12 have been added.

Attachments following last page of this Amendment:

Replacement Sheet (1 page)

REMARKS

In response to the office action dated May 22, 2006, a substitute Figure 5 is being submitted, independent claim 2 has been canceled and new claims 3-13 have been added. As such, claims 1 and 3-13 are pending. Favorable reconsideration in view of the amendments and the following remarks.

New claims 3-13 are directed to methods of documenting information. While such methods are generally described throughout the present application, these claims also include features that were described in an example of the Provisional Application Serial No. 60/427,550, which was incorporated into the present application by reference (see page 1). Particularly, subject matter from the provisional application has been added starting at page 20, line 8. New claim 3 recites steps of creating a semantic card, seeking to detect an information resource, and, if the resource is found, linking the semantic card to it. For example: creation of semcards is described on pages 19-20 of the specification; detection of the information resource is described on page 19 line 20 and on page 20 lines 5-7; and linking from the semcard to the resource is disclosed in the description of Figure 2 beginning on page 15. New claim 4: providing the semcard with meta data is discussed on page 19, lines 19-20. New claim 5: that the semcard can represent tacit information (for which there may not exist any specific information resource) is discussed on page 6, lines 12-14. New claim 6: that the semantic card is created before seeking to detect the information resource is discussed on page 20, lines 9-25. New claim 7: that the information resource is detected before creating the semantic card is discussed on page 20, lines 5-8. The subject matter of new claims 8-13 is discussed in the portion of the provisional application that was introduced by amendment above. No new matter is added.

Objections in the Office Action

The Office Action objected to Figures 1, 3 5 and 6 of the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The objections to Figures 1, 3 and 6 are addressed by making minor corrections in the specification. For Figure 5, a substitute sheet is being submitted.

Particularly, page 15, line 7 of the specification has been amended to instead refer to a "semcard 5 with example tags 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16 ...". Support for the amendment is found in

Figure 1 as filed, which shows a semcard 5 that contains the tags 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16. Page 15, line 21 has been amended to clarify that the link 3 is a semcard as the semcards shown in Figure 6. Support for the amendment is found in the sentence being amended and in Figures 2 and 6. Page 16, line 13 has been amended to instead refer to an "ontology 7" referred to by the data in the display specification 14. Support for the amendment is found in Figure 3 as filed, which shows the data in the display specification 14 referring to the ontology 7. The description of Figure 5 refers to a number of pieces of information, including "friends 11" and "authored document 13" (page 17, lines 18-21). While the other mentioned information pieces (numbers 3, 5, 7 and 9) were shown in Figure 5, the elements 11 and 13 had inadvertently been left out. Similarly, the semcards 10 and 12 for the missing information pieces were described in the text (page 17, lines 21-22) but were inadvertently left out of the figure. In the substitute Figure 5, the friends 11 and semcard 10, and authored document 13 and semcard 12, have been added. The amendment is supported by Figure 5 as filed and by the cited portions of the specification. No new matter is added. Thus, favorable reconsideration of the objections is respectfully requested in view of the amendments.

The Office Action objected to the abstract as exceeding 15 lines of text. The abstract has been deleted and another abstract has been submitted. Favorable reconsideration of this objection is respectfully requested in view of the amendment.

Rejections in the Office Action

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,809,297 (Kroenke). Claim 2 has been canceled. Applicants do not concede that the claim is canceled for a reason related to patentability and reserves the right to again introduce claim 2 in the future. Favorable reconsideration of the rejection of claim 1 in view of the following remarks is requested.

Claim 1 is directed to a semantic object representing an entity or tacit information. The object comprises semantic tags and rules. The rules embody "goals, automation and other policies regarding how the semantic object interacts with, is manipulated by, and is displayed to human beings and automatic processes." Applicants note that the part regarding "how the

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semantic object interacts with, is manipulated by, and is displayed to human beings and automatic processes" is embodied in the rules according to claim 1. In some implementations, copies of the semantic objects are distributed to other users (page 19, line 17—page 20, line 4), for example by transmitting them over a computer network (page 21, lines 17-20). Thus, it is an advantage to have the rules included in the semantic object so that they are available at the receiving end. Applicants submit that Kroenke does not teach or suggest a semantic object that includes rules as recited in independent claim 1.

Kroenke discloses a system for creating a relational database schema. Indeed, the disclosure of Kroenke appears to be restricted to relational databases. The Office Action cited to Column 23, lines 26-27 of Kroenke (hereafter: 23:26-27) as allegedly showing the "rules embodying goals" feature of claim 1. However, Kroenke does not disclose or suggest that the rules be included in the object. Rather, the rules at Kroenke 23:26-27 are applied when validating an attribute in a formula. Then, Kroenke teaches, the "system applies a set of rules to ensure that the correct attribute is used". Thus, Kroenke's rules do not appear to be included in Kroenke's semantic object, and moreover Kroenke's rules do not specify "how the semantic object interacts with, is manipulated by, and is displayed to human beings and automatic processes" as required by claim 1. Accordingly, Kroenke does not teach or suggest semantic objects that include rules as claimed, and also not that the rule regulate how the semantic object interacts, for example.

For the portion of the claim that reads "automation and other policies regarding how the semantic object interacts with," the Office Action cited to Kroenke 4:55-57 and 11:47-49. First, this claim phrase relates to the rules mentioned earlier in the claim, such that it is the rules that must embody "automation and other policies regarding ... etc.". Second, the cited passages of Kroenke do not teach or suggest rules that embody such features. Rather, Kroenke 4:55-57 states that the user interacts with a graphical user interface to create appropriate semantic objects. There is no mention or suggestion of rules regarding interaction being included in the object. Also, Kroenke 11:47-49 states that the user interface is on a display screen. Again, there is no mention or suggestion of rules regarding interaction being included in the object.

For the portion of the claim that reads "is manipulated by, and is displayed to human beings," the Office Action cited to Kroenke 7:18-21. First, this claim phrase relates to the rules mentioned earlier in the claim, such that it is the rules that must relate to how the semantic object "is manipulated by, and is displayed to human beings". Second, the cited passage of Kroenke does not teach or suggest rules that embody such features. That is, Kroenke 7:18-21 states that the user can model the data by manipulating the semantic objects. There is no mention or suggestion of including rules in the object relating to how the semantic object is manipulated by, and is displayed to human beings.

For the portion of the claim that reads "automatic processes," the Office Action cited to Kroenke 8:1-4 and 12:15-20. First, this claim phrase relates to the rules mentioned earlier in the claim, such that it is the rules that must relate to how the semantic object interacts with, is manipulated by, and is displayed to human beings and "automatic processes". Second, the cited passages of Kroenke do not teach or suggest rules that embody such features. Kroenke 8:1-4 states that placing a subtype attribute in the person semantic object automatically causes a parent-type attribute called "person" to be placed in the student semantic object. There is no mention or suggestion of including rules in the object relating to how the semantic object interacts with, is manipulated by, and is displayed to human beings and "automatic processes". Kroenke 12:15-20 states that an object link profile is created and can be used to relate one semantic object to another within the model. Again, there is no mention or suggestion of including rules in the object relating to how the semantic object interacts with, is manipulated by, and is displayed to human beings and "automatic processes".

In summary, Kroenke does not disclose or suggest the rules included in the semantic object according to claim 1. As such, it cannot be said that Kroenke anticipates the subject matter of claim 1. Claim 1 is therefore patentable over Kroenke.

Favorable reconsideration of claim 1, and consideration of new claims 3-13, is requested.

This amendment is filed within the shortened statutory period and no fee is therefore due. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

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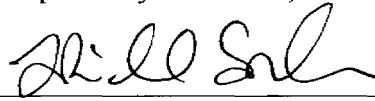Attorney's Docket No.: 15561-017001

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 8/22/06

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